

PROGRAMS EXAMINER

Signature – Hui Chin Barnhill

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

MAY 0 6 2002

Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL PROGRAMS EXAMINER

Cir:

The Office Action mailed Aug. 13, 2001 (Paper No. 9), has been carefully considered. In response thereto, please consider the following remarks.

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

The Office Action rejected all presently-pending claims 1-16 and 18-21. Specifically, the Office Action rejected claims 1-16 and 18-21 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as being unpatentable over Yamaguchi et al. (U.S. Patent 6,118,154) in view of Hu et al. (U.S. Patent 6,121,077), Erdeljac et